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Bridge column by Tanna Hirsch

13th September 2011

Dealer : East Vul : None	NORTH ♠ A K J 8 3 ♥ 6 3 2 ♦ A 7 ♣ K 6 3	
WEST ♠ Q 7 4 ♥ 10 9 5 ♦ J 9 3 ♣ A Q 8 7		EAST ♠ 10 9 6 ♥ J 8 ♦ Q 10 6 ♣ J 10 9 5 4
	SOUTH ♠ 5 2 ♥ A K Q 7 4 ♦ K 8 5 4 2 ♣ 2	

East	South	West	North
Pass	1 Heart	Pass	1 Spade
Pass	2 Diamond	Pass	3 Club
Pass	3 Diamonf	Pass	3 Heart
Pass	4 Club	Pass	4 Diamond
Pass	4 Heart	Pass	4 Spade
Pass	5 Heart	Pass	6 Heart
All Pass			

Opening lead: Four of ♠

This deal is from last year's European Women's Championship between defending champions France and Hungary. The French reached four hearts in three rounds of bidding and made 12 tricks.

The Hungarian auction took longer than the play. The first three bids were natural. East's three clubs was fourth-suit forcing and four clubs and four diamonds were both cue-bids. By agreement four spades was Roman Key-Card Blackwood and five hearts showed two key cards and the queen of trumps. Six hearts became the final contract.

West led the four of spades, taken with dummy's ace. A heart to the ace provided an entry to the closed hand for the lead of the deuce of clubs. West rose with the ace and switched to the three of diamonds. Declarer won in hand, crossed to the king of spades and ruffed a spade. When the queen appeared, declarer drew trumps and 12 tricks rolled in.

Hungary's moment of glory was short-lived. France won the match with room to spare and went on to retain its title.

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gorenbridge@aol.com